

MATTHEW H. MEAD
GOVERNOR



2323 Carey Avenue
CHEYENNE, WY 82002

Office of the Governor

April 10, 2018

Mr. Mike Robinson, Project Manager
United States Bureau of Land Management
Casper Field Office
2987 Prospect Drive
Casper, WY 82604

Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Converse County Oil and Gas
Development Project

Dear Mr. Robinson,

I recognize that the comment period for the Draft EIS for the Converse County Oil and Gas Development Project ended last month. However, after reviewing the comments submitted by the Petroleum Association of Wyoming (PAW) and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) regarding raptors, I wanted to make sure my comments are clear. I incorporated the comments of the Wyoming state agencies into my comments, and the WGFD discussed raptors in its comments.

PAW emphasizes the need for relief from timing stipulations for raptors to allow for year-round drilling. I support year-round drilling if appropriate safeguards are in place to reduce impacts to migratory bird species. WGFD's comments referenced that the project proponents were developing a migratory bird conservation plan with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to navigate the challenges associated with raptor nests in the project area. Wyoming has not seen the plan, but believes it is important to consider all appropriate options that might aid the BLM.

Thank you again. Please contact me if you have questions or would like further clarification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew H. Mead".

Matthew H. Mead
Governor

MHM:dp

RECEIVED

APR 16 2018

Bureau of Land Management
WHPD / Casper Field Office